



# Types of land on the Biodiversity Values Map

Department of Climate Change,  
Energy, the Environment and Water



## Acknowledgement of Country

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we work and live.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

This resource may contain images or names of deceased persons in photographs or historical content.

© 2024 State of NSW and Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

With the exception of photographs, the State of NSW and Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) are pleased to allow this material to be reproduced in whole or in part for educational and non-commercial use, provided the meaning is unchanged and its source, publisher and authorship are acknowledged. Specific permission is required to reproduce photographs.

Learn more about our copyright and disclaimer at [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/copyright](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/copyright)

Artist and designer Nikita Ridgeway from Aboriginal design agency Boss Lady Creative Designs created the People and Community symbol.

Cover photo: Farmland, Oberon. Rosie Nicolai/DCCEEW

Published by:

Environment and Heritage

Department of Climate Change,  
Energy, the Environment and Water

Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124

Phone: +61 2 9995 5000 (switchboard)

Phone: 1300 361 967 (Environment and Heritage enquiries)

TTY users: phone 133 677, then ask for 1300 361 967

Speak and listen users: phone 1300 555 727, then ask for 1300 361 967

Email [info@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Website [www.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au)

ISBN 978-1-922318-58-9

EH 2024/0271

First published in March 2020; reprinted April 2024 and September 2024 with amendments

Find out more at:

[environment.nsw.gov.au](http://environment.nsw.gov.au)

# Contents

Purpose of this document	1
Introduction	2
Coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest mapped under Chapter 2 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021	4
Description of the mapping	4
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	4
How is the mapping developed?	4
Further information on the mapping	4
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	5
Core koala habitat identified in a plan of management under State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019	6
Description of the mapping	6
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	8
How is the mapping developed?	8
Further information on the mapping	8
Declared Ramsar wetlands defined by the Environment Protection and <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	9
Description of the mapping	9
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	9
How is the mapping developed?	10
Further information on the mapping	10
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	10
Land containing threatened species or threatened ecological communities identified as potential serious and irreversible impacts	11
Description of the mapping	11
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	12
How is the mapping developed?	12

How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	12
<b>Biodiverse riparian land</b>	<b>13</b>
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	13
How is the mapping developed?	13
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	13
<b>High conservation value grasslands or groundcover</b>	<b>14</b>
Description of the mapping	14
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	14
How is the mapping developed?	14
Further information on the mapping	14
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	14
<b>Old growth forest</b>	<b>15</b>
Description of the mapping	15
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	15
How is the mapping developed?	15
Further information on the mapping	16
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	16
<b>Rainforest</b>	<b>17</b>
Description of the mapping	17
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	17
How is the mapping developed?	17
Further information on the mapping	18
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	18
<b>Declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value</b>	<b>19</b>
Description of the mapping	19
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	19
How is the mapping developed?	19
Further information on the mapping	19
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	20
<b>Council nominated areas considered to conserve biodiversity at     bioregional or state scale</b>	<b>21</b>
Description of the mapping	21
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	21

How is the mapping developed?	21
Further information on the mapping	21
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	21
<b>Other land of sufficient biodiversity value to be included in the map</b>	<b>22</b>
Description of the mapping	22
Who develops and maintains the mapping?	22
How is the mapping developed?	22
Further information on the mapping	22
How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?	23
<b>More information</b>	<b>24</b>

## Purpose of this document

This document provides a description of the types of land that can be included on the Biodiversity Values (BV) Map. This includes a brief description of the type of land, the organisation that develops and maintains the mapping and the process they follow and where more information can be found. This document will be updated periodically as new and modified mapping is included on the BV Map.



Photo 1      **Swift parrots (*Lathamus discolour*). Ken Stepnell/DCCEEW**

# Introduction

The Biodiversity Values (BV) Map is prepared by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water under Part 7 of the *Biodiversity Conservation (BC) Act 2016*. The BV Map is one of the thresholds that activates the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) established under the Biodiversity Conservation (BC) Regulation 2017 (cl. 7.1).

The BOS threshold is used to determine when it is necessary to engage an accredited assessor to apply the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) to assess the impacts of a proposal. It is used for local developments that require council consent and clearing native vegetation that does not require council consent in urban areas and areas zoned for environmental conservation (under the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017*).

The initial version of the BV Map was published on 25 August 2017. The BV Map can be viewed through the Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool (BMAT Tool). General information about the map can be found on the Biodiversity Values Map webpage.

The BV Map is updated periodically to include new map layers or refinements to existing layers. Landholders can request a review of the mapping where they consider there is an error.

Information on applying for a map review and an outline of the changes made in each update is provided on the Biodiversity Values Map webpage. You can access BV Map spatial data through the NSW Sharing and Enabling Environmental Data (SEED) Portal.

Clause 7.3(3) of the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 describes 11 types of land the Environment Agency Head may include on the BV Map. These land types are:

- a. coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest mapped under the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018*
- b. core koala habitat identified in a plan of management under *State Environmental Planning Policy No 44 – Koala Habitat Protection (SEPP 44)* (replaced by SEPP (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019 on 1 March 2020)
- c. declared Ramsar wetlands defined by the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- d. land containing threatened species or threatened ecological communities identified as being at risk of serious and irreversible impacts (SAIL) under section 6.5 of the BC Act
- e. protected riparian land
- f. high conservation value grasslands or groundcover
- g. old growth forest identified in mapping developed under the *National Forests Policy Statement*
- h. rainforest identified in mapping developed under the *National Forests Policy Statement*

### Types of land on the Biodiversity Values Map

- i. declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value
- j. council nominated areas with connectivity or threatened species habitat that the Minister considers will conserve biodiversity at a bioregional or state scale
- k. any other land that in the opinion of the Environment Agency Head is of sufficient biodiversity value to be included.



# Coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest mapped under Chapter 2 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021

## Description of the mapping

The Resilience and Hazards State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) defines the coastal zone and establishes state-level planning priorities and development controls to guide decision-making for development within the coastal zone. One of the 4 coastal management areas is the coastal wetlands and littoral rainforests area. The Coastal Management SEPP 2018 is now Chapter 2 (Coastal Management) of the Resilience and Hazards SEPP 2021.

The coastal wetlands and littoral rainforests area are defined in the *Coastal Management Act 2016* as land that displays ‘the hydrological and floristic characteristics of coastal wetlands or littoral rainforests and land adjoining those features’. The mapping includes coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest across all local government areas, including those in Greater Metropolitan Sydney. The coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest area also include a separate map layer of a 100-metre proximity area, applying to all land zones, around the coastal wetlands and littoral rainforests.

Minor updates and amendments are made to this data to ensure its currency.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

## How is the mapping developed?

*Fact sheet 4: Mapping of Coastal Management Areas (Technical)* outlines the criteria and methods used to identify the coastal management areas, including the coastal wetlands and littoral rainforests area.

## Further information on the mapping

Information on the Resilience and Hazards SEPP is available on the department’s website. This includes a link to the Coastal SEPP Mapping Tool and Fact sheets.

The spatial data and metadata are available through the Resilience and Hazards SEPP – SEED dataset.



**Photo 2 Littoral Rainforest in the New South Wales North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions. Jackie Miles/DCCEEW**

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

The former SEPP 14 – Coastal Wetlands and SEPP 26 – Littoral Rainforest were replaced with the coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest area in the BV Map Version in 2018. The proximity areas around coastal wetlands or littoral rainforests were not included as they represent land adjacent to, or in proximity to, the coastal wetland or littoral rainforest rather than the vegetation community itself.

Changes arising from the amended coastal wetlands and littoral rainforests area mapping were included in BV Map in 2019.

# Core koala habitat identified in a plan of management under State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019

## Description of the mapping

The SEPP (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019 came into effect on 1 March 2020 and replaces the former SEPP 44 – Koala Habitat Protection. Key changes and features of the new SEPP are outlined in frequently asked questions.

The new policy provides for the development of koala plans of management (KPoM) that can cover part or whole local government areas listed in Schedule 1 of the Policy. These plans can identify areas of core koala habitat and identify special provisions to control the development of that land. Plans of management that were developed under the former SEPP 44 continue to apply. The new Koala Habitat Protection Guideline outlines the survey method for identifying core koala habitat in new KPoMs to be made under the SEPP (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019.

Currently, there are 7 Comprehensive KPoMs and 3 precinct KPoMs that have areas included on the BV Map. In the existing KPoMs some councils use different terms to describe core koala habitat in their KPoMs, such as primary habitat and preferred habitat:

Types of land on the Biodiversity Values Map

LGA	Mapping category considered to be 'core koala habitat'	Further information on council's websites
Coffs Harbour	Primary	<a href="http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Plants-and-animals">www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Plants-and-animals</a>
Port Stephens	Preferred	<a href="http://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/environment/environmental-plans-and-strategies/comprehensive-koala-plan-of-management">www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/environment/environmental-plans-and-strategies/comprehensive-koala-plan-of-management</a>
Kempsey (Eastern Portion)	Primary	<a href="http://www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au/Your-Council/Publications/Plans-strategies/Koala-Plan-of-Management">www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au/Your-Council/Publications/Plans-strategies/Koala-Plan-of-Management</a>
Lismore (South East)	Primary	<a href="http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au/Community/Environmental-strategies/Strategies-and-plans/Comprehensive-Koala-Plan-of-Management">www.lismore.nsw.gov.au/Community/Environmental-strategies/Strategies-and-plans/Comprehensive-Koala-Plan-of-Management</a>
Bellingen	Core	<a href="http://www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au/Home">www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au/Home</a>
Ballina	Core	<a href="http://www.ballina.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-HWU-21-05-76">www.ballina.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-HWU-21-05-76</a>
Campbelltown	Core	<a href="#">campbelltownkoalaplanoofmanagement.pdf (nsw.gov.au)</a>
Port Macquarie (Area 13, Area 14 and Kings Creek)	Core	<a href="#">koala-plan-of-management-area-13-thrumster-2008.pdf (nsw.gov.au)</a> <a href="#">koala-plan-of-management-area-14-lake-cathie-bonny-hills-2012.pdf (nsw.gov.au)</a> Kings Creek Koala Plan of Management, October 1999 ed. (nsw.gov.au)

Note: The Tweed Coast and Byron Coast KPOMs are mapped under Part (k) Other land of sufficient biodiversity value to be included which is described below.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

Local councils develop and maintain the mapping in their KPoMs. Mapping changes need to be approved by the Planning Secretary.

## How is the mapping developed?

Refer to each council's website (see above).



**Photo 3** Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*). John Turbill/DCCEEW

## Further information on the mapping

The spatial data and metadata of the existing KPoMs are available through the Sharing and Enabling Environmental Data (SEED) Portal. The approved KPoMs that the Environment Agency Head considers is core koala habitat are included on the BV Map.

# Declared Ramsar wetlands defined by the Environment Protection and *Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

## Description of the mapping

New South Wales Declared Ramsar wetlands are listed under an international convention known as the Ramsar Convention that aims to protect their ecological character. Its full name is the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

The Australian Government signed the Convention, which was entered into force in Australia in 1975.

The Australian Government can, with the support of state and territory governments, nominate sites to be listed under the Convention. Sites must meet at least one of 9 internationally accepted criteria.

Ramsar wetlands are protected as a 'Matter of National Environmental Significance' under the Australian Government's *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is the sole or part land manager for most Declared Ramsar wetland sites in New South Wales.

More information on the Convention and each of the New South Wales' sites is available on our *Internationally significant wetlands* page.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water maintain the mapping. T

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division advise the Australian Government on the mapping.



**Photo 4**      **RAMSAR Wetland Towra Point is the most significant wetland in the Sydney region – recognised at a national and international level.**  
**John Spencer/DCCEW**

## How is the mapping developed?

Mapping is developed as part of the nominations for new sites and alterations to the boundaries of existing sites.

## Further information on the mapping

A map of NSW Ramsar wetlands and a data quality statement are available through the SEED Portal.

Digital data for the National Map of Ramsar wetlands is available from this Australian Government website.

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

All Declared Ramsar wetland sites in New South Wales are included on the BV Map.

# Land containing threatened species or threatened ecological communities identified as potential serious and irreversible impacts

## Description of the mapping

Threatened species and threatened ecological communities (TECs) identified under s. 6.5 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* as being at risk of a serious or irreversible impact (SAIL) are those considered most at risk of extinction from development impacts or activities.

Decision-makers are required to determine whether a proposed development or clearing activity will result in a serious and irreversible impact.

The Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 identifies 4 principles to assist decision-makers to determine if an SAIL would occur. More information is available from the department's webpage on serious and irreversible impacts of development on biodiversity. This includes a guidance document that provides supporting information to assist with the application of the SAIL principles. The SAIL webpage lists the threatened species and TECs that are at risk of an SAIL.

The department periodically updates the list of entities at risk of an SAIL. Information about updates to SAIL species and SAIL TECs is available on the Updates to the Biodiversity Values Map webpage.

The department has undertaken a prioritisation of the unmapped SAIL species and those that occur in areas undergoing development are a high priority to be mapped.



**Photo 5** Tallong Midge Orchid (*Genoplesium plumosum*). Alan Stephenson/DCCEEW



## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The department's Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division.

## How is the mapping developed?

### Threatened species at risk of a SAI

The department has developed the *Method for mapping threatened species for inclusion in the Regulatory framework*. This document outlines a standardised approach to the mapping of threatened species that are included in the BV Map and the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map. The aim of the approach is to map areas where there is a high likelihood of finding the species. The draft methods and data used to map each species will be reviewed by an external expert prior to the mapping being considered for inclusion in the BV Map.

### Threatened ecological communities at risk of a SAI

Where available, existing mapping has been used. The department will develop a standard method for mapping TECs for inclusion into regulatory maps that will be used to refine existing TEC mapping and guide development of new mapping for TECs.



**Photo 6** Blue Gum High Forest Critically Endangered Ecological Community. John Spencer/DCCEW

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

New or revised mapping that is approved by the Environment Agency Head or their delegate will be included in an update to the BV Map.

# Biodiverse riparian land

## Description of the mapping

Biodiverse riparian land is land within 20 metres of a bed or bank of a named natural watercourse or waterbody.

Only topographic streams with an assigned name and identified as 'natural' are included in the BV Map.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The department's Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division.

## How is the mapping developed?

The biodiverse riparian layer used in the BV Map has been created from a combination of available datasets. This includes mapping of various hydrological features appearing on topographic maps that are digitised by NSW Spatial Services and stored in the Digital Topographic Database. A 22.5 metre buffer was applied to the centreline of smaller watercourses and a 20 metre buffer applied to larger watercourses and water bodies.

As the mapping of water bodies includes harbours, bays and estuaries where the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme does not apply, a layer of these waterbodies was created and erased from the protected riparian layer.

To remove areas that have been cleared by recent developments, an 'urban area' layer of lots less than or equal to 1000 m<sup>2</sup> within land zoned for residential, business or industrial was created and erased from the protected riparian land layer.

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

The map displays topographic streams identified as 'natural' and that have an assigned 'name'. Built-up areas within the riparian corridor have been removed from the BV Map. In rural areas, riparian land where a change in land use has eliminated the natural stream features has also been removed from the BV Map.

Watercourses may have moved through time as erosion, deposition, and transport of sediment occurs. Updates to the BV map can be made if the watercourse is no longer aligned with the biodiverse riparian land mapping.

# High conservation value grasslands or groundcover

## Description of the mapping

The Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 (cl.7.3(3)(f)) states that the published Interim Grasslands and Other Groundcover Assessment Method can determine areas of high conservation value grasslands or groundcover.

No high conservation value grassland or groundcover areas have been included on the BV Map at this stage.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The department's Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division will develop the mapping.

## How is the mapping developed?

No mapping has been developed at this stage.

## Further information on the mapping

Information on the Interim Grasslands and other Groundcover Assessment Method (IGGAM) is available on the department's website.

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

No areas have been considered for inclusion at this stage.

# Old growth forest

## Description of the mapping

Old growth forest was originally mapped at a regional scale using aerial photography interpretation techniques as a part of a Comprehensive Regional Assessment (CRA) undertaken between 1997 and 2000. The CRAs were a set of ecological assessments undertaken to inform the development of Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) for the Upper and Lower North East, Southern and Eden regions of New South Wales. Old growth forests are currently defined as an ecologically mature forest where the effects of disturbances are now negligible.

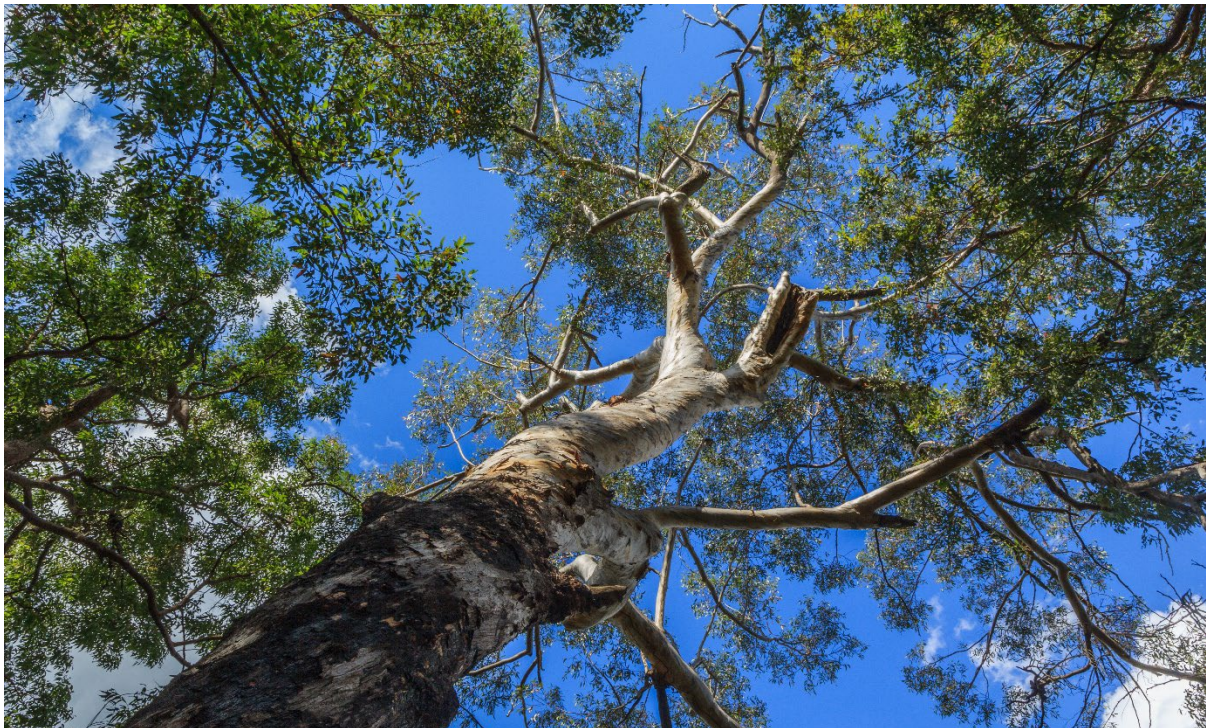
## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The department's Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division.

## How is the mapping developed?

The old growth mapping is maintained and continually updated using fine-scale digital mapping techniques and field survey. As this data was created at a regional scale, rather than an individual property scale, any map review of disputed old growth forest areas will be undertaken using the most recent aerial photography available to map the actual extent of old growth forest on the property.

Mapping is conducted in a 3D on-screen environment using specialised hardware and software and using high-resolution ADS digital imagery. Two assessors review the mapping and then results are stored in a database.



**Photo 7** Senescent blackbutt tree (*Eucalyptus pilularis*). Nick Westman/DCCEEW

## Further information on the mapping

Landholders with a Private Native Forest (PNF) Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) can also apply to have the map of old growth forest in their PVP reviewed, if they believe it is not accurate. The Protocol for re-evaluating old growth forest on private property describes the methods used to identify and validate old growth forest on private land.

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

Mapped areas of old growth forest are included on the BV Map.

# Rainforest

## Description of the mapping

Rainforests were originally mapped at a regional scale using aerial photography interpretation techniques as a part of a Comprehensive Regional Assessment (CRA) undertaken between 1997 and 2000. The CRAs were a set of ecological assessments undertaken to inform the development of Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) for the Upper and Lower North East, Southern and Eden regions of New South Wales.

Rainforests are currently defined as tree-dominated vegetation with rainforest species making up 50% or more of the crown cover, except where non-rainforest emergent species (including brush box and turpentine) occur and exceed 30% or more of the upper stratum crown cover.



**Photo 8** Illawarra Subtropical Rainforest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion. Jemma Lemmon/DCCEEW

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The department's Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division

## How is the mapping developed?

The rainforest mapping is maintained and continually updated on request by the department using fine-scale digital mapping techniques and field survey. As this data was created at a regional scale, rather than on an individual property scale, any map

review of disputed rainforest areas will be undertaken using the most recent aerial photography available to map the actual extent of rainforest on the property.

Mapping is conducted in a 3D on-screen environment using specialised hardware and software and using high-resolution ADS digital imagery. Two assessors review the mapping and then results are stored in a database.

## Further information on the mapping

Landholders with a Private Native Forest (PNF) Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) can also apply to have the map of rainforest in their PVP reviewed, if they believe it is not accurate. The Protocol for re-evaluating rainforest on private property describes the methods used to identify and validate rainforest on private land.

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

Mapped areas of rainforest are included on the BV Map.

# Declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value

## Description of the mapping

The *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (Part 3 - BC Act) gives the Minister for the Environment the power to declare areas of outstanding biodiversity value. These are special areas that contain irreplaceable biodiversity values that are important to the whole of New South Wales, Australia or globally.

The Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 (Part 3) establishes the criteria for declaring areas of outstanding biodiversity values. The criteria have been designed to identify the most valuable sites for biodiversity conservation in New South Wales.

Further information on areas of outstanding biodiversity values is available on the department's website.

Areas of declared critical habitat under the repealed *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*, (including Little Penguin and Wollemi Pine declared areas), have become the first areas of outstanding biodiversity values in New South Wales with the commencement of the BC Act.

The following 4 critical habitat areas existing at the commencement of the BC Act are therefore taken to be areas of outstanding biodiversity values:

- Gould's petrel
- Little penguin population in Sydney's Northern Harbour (at Manly)
- Michell's rainforest snail on Stotts Island Nature Reserve
- Wollemi pine

The Area of Outstanding Biodiversity Value register includes the declarations for these areas.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

Nominators of proposed areas will be required to provide mapping of the areas.

## How is the mapping developed?

The department is developing Assessment Guidelines for interpreting the listing criteria for areas of outstanding biodiversity values and nomination guidelines that will outline the information required in nominations.

## Further information on the mapping

Further information on areas of outstanding biodiversity value mapping will be made available on the department's website once the assessment and nomination guidelines have been finalised.



## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

Of the 4 existing areas of outstanding biodiversity values, only the area for the Little penguin population at Manly includes private land and has been included on the map. The other 3 areas of outstanding biodiversity value are entirely within NPWS reserves and as they are protected from development, they have not been included on the map.



**Photo 9** Little penguin (*Eudyptula Minor*) female at nest. Nicholas Carlile/DCCEEW

# Council nominated areas considered to conserve biodiversity at bioregional or state scale

## Description of the mapping

The Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 (cl.7.3(3)(j)) states that:

‘Land that, in the opinion of the council of the local government area concerned, contains vegetation connectivity features or threatened species habitat and whose inclusion in the map will, in the opinion of the Minister, conserve biodiversity at a bioregional or state scale.’

No areas have been included on the BV Map at this stage.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The department’s Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division will develop assessment and nomination guidelines.

The Assessment Guidelines will provide information on identifying land that contains vegetation connectivity or threatened species habitat that would conserve biodiversity at a bioregional or state scale. Nomination guidelines will outline the requirements for making a nomination, including the information to support an assessment of the areas’ significance, consultation and endorsement of the nomination by council and the mapping data requirements. The guidelines will also outline the department’s process to assess the nominations and make recommendations to the Minister.

## How is the mapping developed?

Studies and mapping that are developed by, and for, councils.

## Further information on the mapping

No council nominated areas have been included on the BV Map at this stage.

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

When assessment and nomination guidelines have been developed, they will be made available from the BV Map webpage. The department will then call for nominations from councils. These will be assessed, and recommendations provided to the Minister. Areas endorsed by the Minister will be added to the BV Map.

# Other land of sufficient biodiversity value to be included in the map

## Description of the mapping

The Environment Agency Head (EAH) has included land containing a Nationally listed endangered ecological community (EEC) and habitat of 4 endangered species listed on the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* on land covered by the State Environmental Planning Policy (Kosciuszko National Park – Alpine Resorts) 2007. The EEC and threatened species are:

- Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens EEC
- Alpine she-oak skink (*Cyclodomorphus praeltus*)
- Guthega skink (*Liopholis Guthega*)
- Mountain pygmy possum (*Burramys parvus*)
- Perisher wallaby grass (*Rytidosperma vickeryae*)

The 'EEC and threatened species mapping on land covered by the Alpine Resorts SEPP' was included to ensure that future development within the resort areas would be subject to the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.

The Environment Agency Head has also included areas of core koala habitat identified in the following approved koala plans of management:

- Byron Koala Plan of Management
- Tweed Koala Plan of Management.

## Who develops and maintains the mapping?

The department's Biodiversity and Conservation Science Division and NPWS developed and maintain the mapping.

## How is the mapping developed?

The department's staff may propose land to be included on the BV Map under this criterion and it will be added if, in the opinion of the Environment Agency Head, it is 'of sufficient biodiversity value to be included in the BV Map' under the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017, .s7.3 cl(3)(k).

## Further information on the mapping

Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens mapping and the Perisher wallaby grass were mapped as part of the Kosciuszko Resorts Vegetation Assessment 2003. Information on the mapping is available from the SEED Portal.

Information on the distribution of mountain pygmy possum habitat is in an article published in the *Australian Zoologist*.

Further information on the Tweed Coast Koala Plan of Management and the Byron Coast Koala Plan of Management can be found on their websites.

## How is the mapping applied in the Biodiversity Values Map?

The EEC and threatened species habitat mapping in the Alpine Resorts have been included in the BV Map since 2017.

Koala Plans of Management identifying areas of core koala habitat have been included in the BV Map since 2021.



Photo 10 Alpine she-oak skink (*Cyclodomorphus praealtus*). George Madani/DCCEEW

### Where to get help

Links to references in this document are listed below in the More Information section.

If you need any further information about the Biodiversity Values Map for your property contact the department's Map Review Team using our online enquiry form or contact us at [map.review@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:map.review@environment.nsw.gov.au) or on 1800 001 490.



Photo 11 Mountain pygmy possum (*Burramys parvus*). Linda Broome/DCCEEW

## More information

- [Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value register](#)
- [Australian Zoologist](#)
- [Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool \(BMAT Tool\)](#)
- [Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool web page](#)
- [Byron Coast Koala Plan of Management](#)
- [Coastal management](#)
- [Environmental Data](#)
- [Fact sheet 4: Mapping of Coastal Management Areas \(Technical\)](#)
- [Interim Grasslands and other Groundcover Assessment Method](#)
- [Internationally significant wetlands](#)
- [Protocol for re-evaluating old-growth forest on private property](#)
- [Protocol for re-evaluating rainforest on private property](#)
- [Ramsar Wetlands of New South Wales](#)
- [Serious and irreversible impacts](#)
- [Sharing and Enabling Environmental Data \(SEED\) Portal: Biodiversity Values Map](#)
- [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Coastal Management\) 2018](#)

## Types of land on the Biodiversity Values Map

- State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018 – SEED dataset – Repealed
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019: Frequently asked questions
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019– Repealed
- Tweed Coast Koala Plan of Management
- Vulnerable Lands – Steep or Highly Erodible, Protected Riparian and Special Category